

Improvement of Environmental Analysis in Transportation Project Evaluation

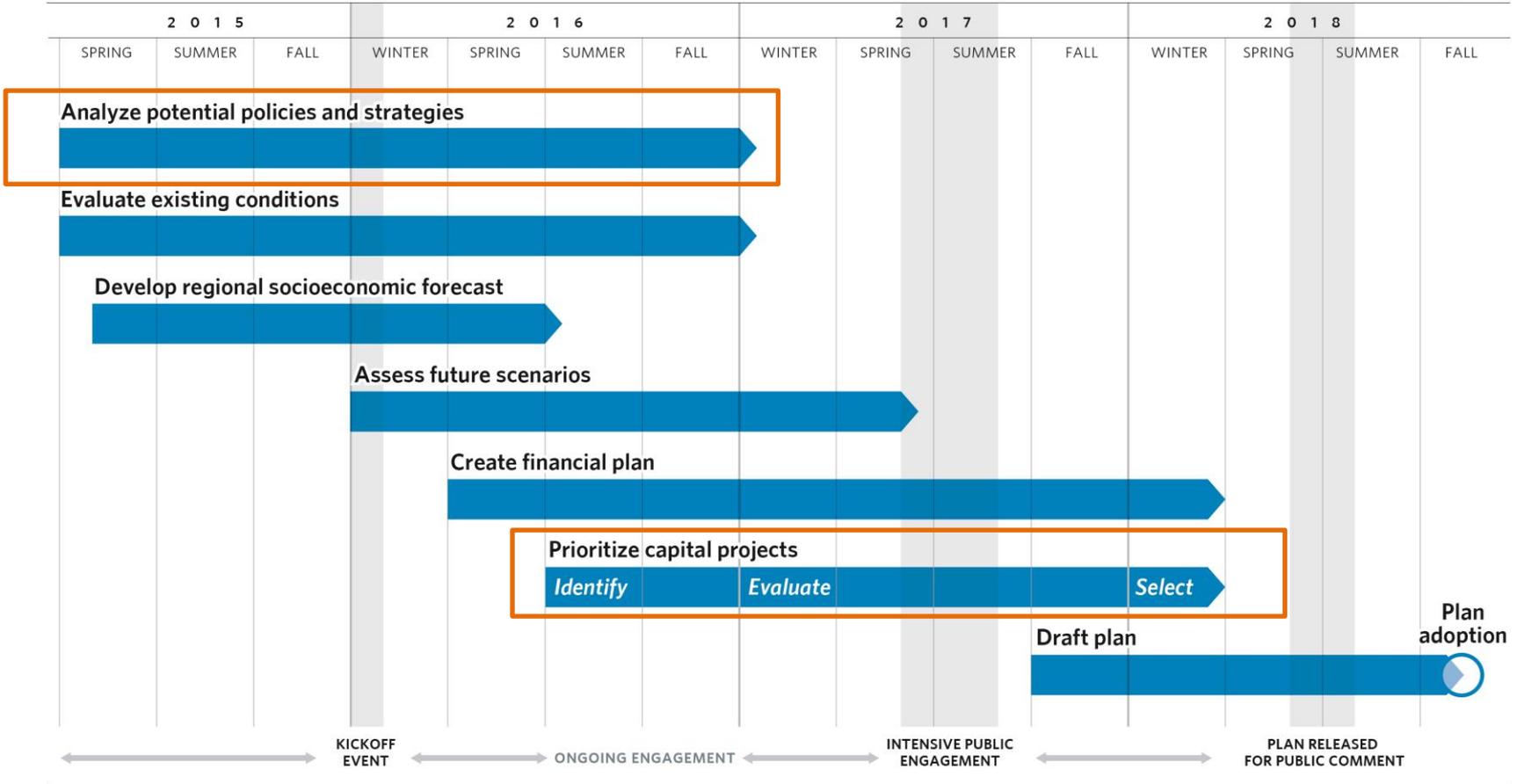
Environment and Natural Resources Committee | February 4, 2016

Project Background

- CMAP laying groundwork for capital project evaluation process for next regional plan
- Emphasis will be on making cooperative, transparent, and prioritized decisions, using the best evaluation criteria possible.
- Staff seeking potential enhancements to analysis of economic and environmental effects of transportation projects.

Planning Process

CMAP comprehensive plan development timeline



Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning.

Project Process

- Summarize previous CMAP analysis of Major Capital Projects
- Review approaches from other states and regions
- Provide a list of potential areas of focus
- ENR committee for guidance
- Develop and refine methods

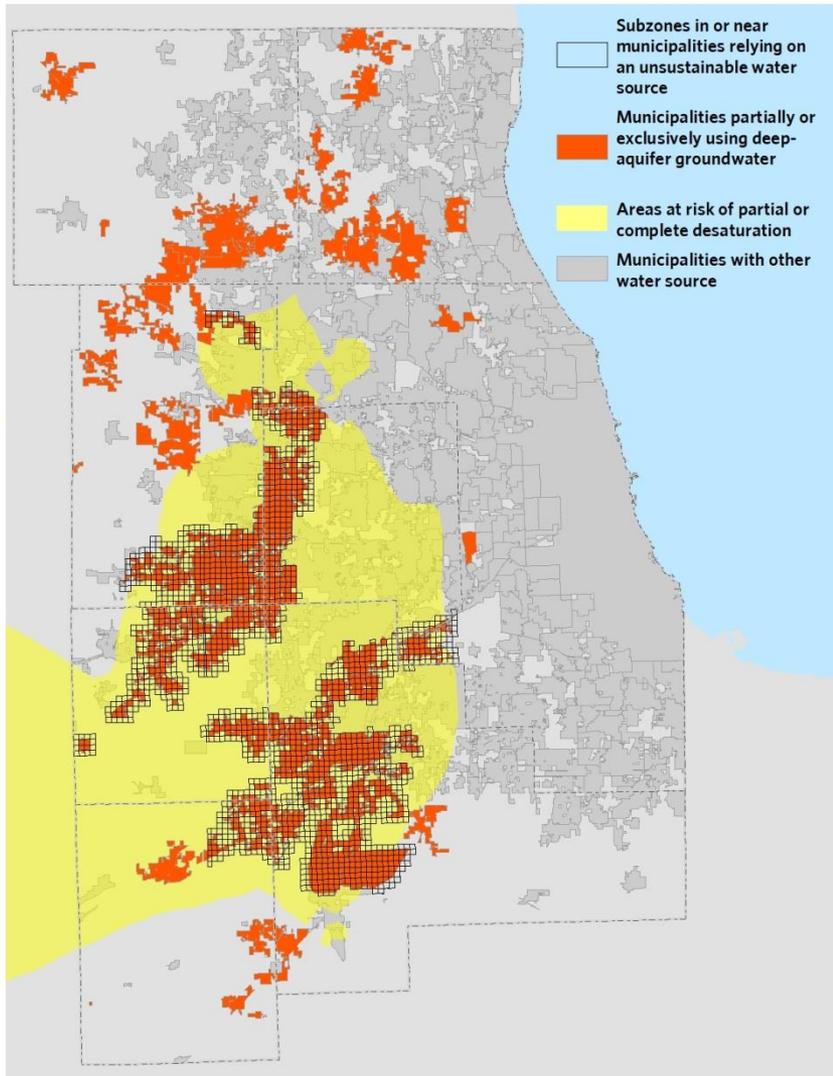
Past Methods

- Environmental Justice
- Air Quality
- Natural Resource Preservation:
 - Development of Green Infrastructure Vision lands
 - Creation of Impervious Surface

Recommended Changes

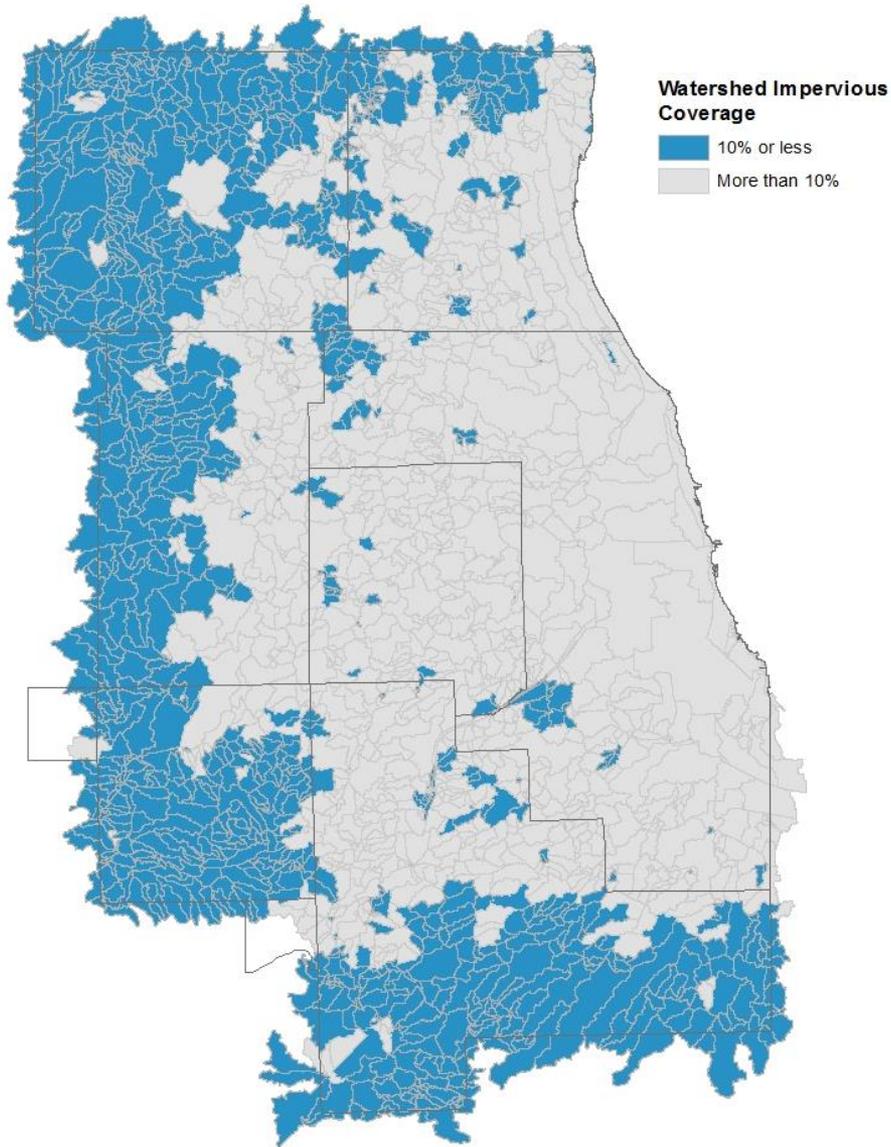
1. Include impacts of development in areas of deep-aquifer drawdown.
2. Refine impervious cover evaluation to include impacts on existing higher quality watersheds.
3. Update terrestrial resource evaluation based on emerging inventory.
4. Update environmental justice measurements to evaluate potential disparate impacts on accessibility and pollution exposure.

Recommended Changes



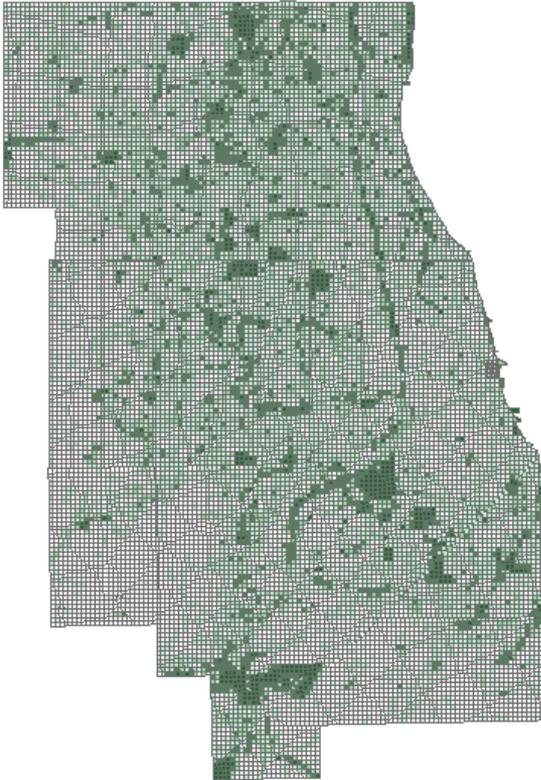
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Recommended Changes



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Recommended Changes



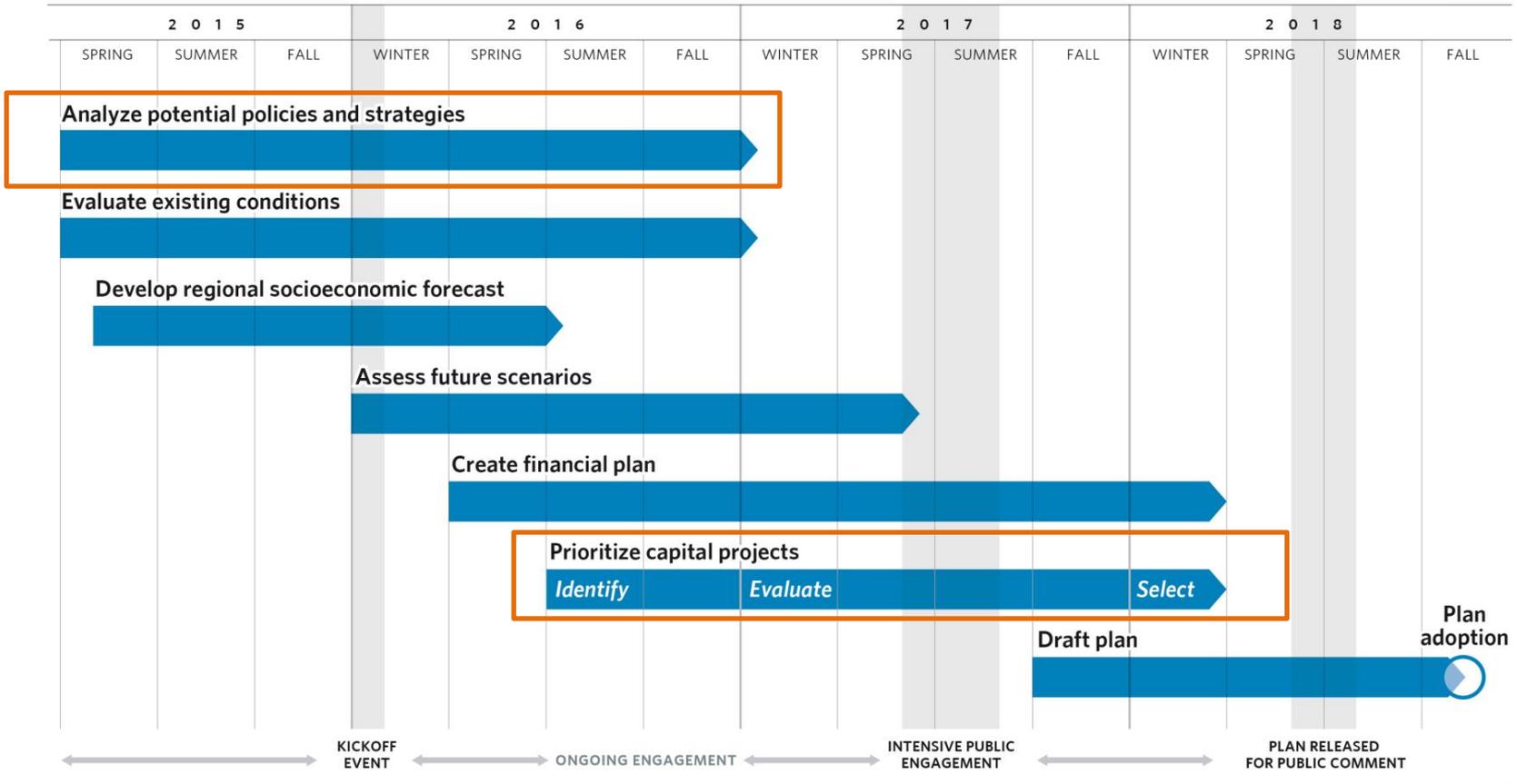
3. Update terrestrial resource evaluation based on emerging inventory.
 - Include the monetary value of potential ecosystem services loss
 - Retain the impacts on restoration potential.
4. Update environmental justice measurements to evaluate potential disparate impacts on accessibility and pollution exposure.

Future Needs

- Urban flooding
- Sensitivity of shallow aquifers to contamination

Next Steps

CMAP comprehensive plan development timeline



Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning.

Comments?

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